

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of the pending claims is provided below for the Examiner's convenience.

1. (Previously Presented) An optical deflector comprising:

a photonic crystal section comprising a material having through holes;

light lead-in means for leading in light to said photonic crystal section; and

external force application means for deforming said photonic crystal section by way of mechanical external force and changing the angle of refraction of the light led in by said light lead-in means in said photonic crystal section,

wherein said external force application means is adapted to apply mechanical external force to said photonic crystal section in a direction perpendicular to the direction of cyclicity of a cyclic structure of said photonic crystal section so as to shift the angle of refraction in said photonic crystal section.

Claims 2-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) An optical switch comprising an optical deflector according to claim 1 and a light lead-out means for leading out light deflected to a desired direction by said optical deflector.

8. (Original) An optical scanner comprising an optical deflector according to claim 1.

Claim 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) An optical deflector comprising:

a photonic crystal section comprising a material having through holes;

a light lead-in portion for leading in light to said photonic crystal section; and

external force application means for deforming said photonic crystal section by way of mechanical external force and changing the angle of refraction of the light led in by said light lead-in portion in said photonic crystal section,

wherein said external force application means is adapted to apply mechanical external force to said photonic crystal section in a direction perpendicular to the direction of cyclicity of a cyclic structure of said photonic crystal section so as to shift the angle of refraction in said photonic crystal section.